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October 28, 2005

VIA COURIER

The Honorable Scott E. Thomas Chairman Federal Election Commission 999 E. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 5673
Sandy Lyons for Congress and Melissa B. Jordan, in her official capacity as treasurer
Sanford David "Sandy" Lyons

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This letter is in response to the Federal Election Commission's ("Commission") August 11, 2005 Notification with Factual and Legal Analysis for the above-referenced proceeding.

We do not challenge the Commission's allegation that Sandy Lyons for Congress and Melissa B. Jordan ("Jordan"), in her official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. §441a-1(b)(1)(C) and 11 C.F.R. § 400.21(b) and Sanford David "Sandy" Lyons ("Lyons") violated 2 U.S.C. §441a-1(b)(1)(C).

First, 2004 was the first federal election year after passage of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. Accordingly, 2004 was the first time campaigns had to comply with the "Millionaire's Amendment" and the related new reporting requirements promulgated by the Commission. As indicated in Jordan's affidavit (enclosure 1), on July 9, 2005 she learned that Lyons had deposited an additional \$100,000 in the Sandy Lyons for Congress account on July 8, 2005. As soon as Jordan made this discovery, she completed FEC Form 10 and sent it via U.S. mail

The Honorable Scott E. Comas October 28, 2005 Page 2

to the Commission. At this time, Jordan believed that FEC Form 10 needed to be postmarked within 24 hours and did not realize it had to actually be received by the Commission within 24 hours. The Commission's file copy of the Sandy Lyons for Congress FEC Form 10 is date stamped July 14, 2005 and the attached "Envelope Replacement Page for Incoming Documents" indicates the envelope containing the FEC Form 10 was postmarked July 9, 2005 (see enclosure 2).

Second, the late filing of the FEC Form 10 by Jordan did not cause any actual harm to any other candidate. The FEC Form 10 was received by the Commission on July 14th, six days prior to the July 20th Republican primary. In addition, another candidate in the primary, George Moretz, had already triggered the Millionaire's Amendment. Finally, Lyons placed third in a four-way primary race and received only 19.6% of the vote.

For these reasons, it is our contention that this late filing was not willful and knowing and did not harm any of the other candidates involved in the primary. Mr. Lyons was a first time federal candidate and does not plan on running for federal office again.

Thank you. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Patton, Eso

Enclosures:

Affidavit of Melissa B. Jordan Sandy Lyons for Congress Form 10

cc: Sanford David "Sandy" Lyons Melissa B. Jordan J. Cameron Thurber Melissa B. Jordan 2049 10th Street Lane NW Hickory, North Carolina 28601

Affidavit of Melissa B. Jordan

I, Melissa B. Jordan, upon my oath do state as follows:

- 1. I served as Treasurer of the Sandy Lyons for Congress campaign from January 15, 2004 to July 15, 2004.
- 2. On July 9, 2004, I learned Sandy Lyons had personally deposited an additional \$100,000 into the campaign account on July 8, 2004. I typed up the FEC Form 10 and sent the required disclosure via the U.S. Postal Service.
- 3. As of July 9, 2004, I was under the impression that FEC Form 10 only had to be postmarked within 24 hours of receipt of funds. I was unaware the law required that the FEC actually receive the disclosure form within 24 hours.

Signed under the penalties of perjury this 24th day of October, 2005.

Melissa B. Jordan

Sworn & subscribed by me this

24th day of Oct 2005

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Commexp 6-28-09





FEC FORM 10

24-HOUR NOTICE OF EXPENDITURE FROM CANDIDATE'S PERSONAL FUNDS (11 CFR 400.21 and 400.22) [Millianaires' Amendment)

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6. Name of Principal Campaign Committ				7, Commi	bee ID Number
Sandy Lyons for Congress				C ₀₀₃₉	4833
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9. City, State and ZIP Code					
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PERMOVO POF	1 Free 800-424-9630, Local 202-6	34-11 0 3		FE	C Porm 10 (Rev (12/2000)

Federal Election Commission ENVELOPE REPLACEMENT PAGE FOR INCOMING DOCUMENTS

The FEC added this page to the end of this filing to indicate how it was received.				
Hand Delivered	Date of Receipt			
USPS First Class Mall	Postmarked 7/9/2004			
USPS Registered/Certified	Postmarked (R/C)			
USPS Priority Mail	Postmarked			
Delive	ery Confirmation ™ Label			
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Overnight Delivery Service (Specify):	Shipping Date			
Received from House Records & Registration	Date of Receipt Office			
Received from Senate Public Records Office	Date of Receipt			
Received from Electronic Filing Office	Date of Receipt			
Other (Specify):	Date of Receipt or Postmarked			
PY	HODG/H/F			
PREPARER (5/2004)	DATE PREPARED			